

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
)	
Hideo NARITA et al.)	Group Art Unit: 3682
)	
Serial No.: 10/758,391)	Examiner: William C. JOYCE
)	
Filed: January 16, 2004)	
)	Confirmation No.: 6069
For: ARTICULATED ROBOT)	

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

This paper is in response to the Restriction Requirement mailed on January 16, 2007. Claims 1-8 are pending in the above identified application. The Examiner has grouped the claims as follows:

Group I: Figures 1-5

Group II: Figure 6

Group III: Figure 7

Without agreeing with the Examiner's assertion, Applicants provisionally elect, with traverse, to prosecute Group I, Figures 1-5, and claims 1, 2 and 4, which are readable thereon. Applicants reserve the right to file divisional applications or re-integrate the remaining claims into the present application at a later date should a generic claim be found to be allowable.

A proper restriction requirement requires the Examiner to show that a *prima facie* case of a serious burden exists. M.P.E.P. § 803. "[I]f the search and examination of an

entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions.”


M.P.E.P. § 803. Applicants respectfully submit that examining the application in total would not present a serious burden to the Examiner. Applicants do not make any statement regarding the obviousness of one group relative to the other, nor should one be inferred. Applicants merely assert that the search of all the pending claims 1-8 would not be unduly burdensome. Accordingly, the restriction requirement should be withdrawn.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: February 16, 2007

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